

TOP SECRET

IN 10203

TOR 28/1620Z FEB 66 FJC

25X1A

25X1A

TOP SECRET 270302Z

25X1A

PRIORITY [] INFO [] CITE []

25X1A

25X1A

[] IDEALIST []

FOR GEN LEDFORD AND MR CUNNINGHAM FROM []

25X1A

25X1A

REF: A. [] IN (0167)

B. [] IN (0175)

C.

25X1A

1. [] IN COORDINATION WITH [] HAS PLAYED LOSS OF ARTICLE

25X1A

342 IN LOW KEY WITH NO ADVERSE REACTION []

25X1A

AS OF SUNDAY NOON 27 FEB. SCHEDULED LOCAL TRAINING WAS CANCELLED

25X1A

FOR SATURDAY AND MONDAY IN COMPLIANCE WITH PARA 2 REF A.

[] WAS ADVISED THIS WAS A [] PENDING RECEIPT

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OF ACCIDENT INFO TO INSURE THAT THERE WAS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN

25X1A

THE TWO RECENT LOSSES. AS OF THIS TIME NEITHER []

25X1A

HAS [] THAT A HEADQUARTERS GROUNDING IS IN EFFECT.

WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN RESUME LOCAL TRAINING AND ULTIMATELY

OPS MISSIONS QUICKER IN THIS MANNER. SO FAR ONLY INFO PASSED

25X1A

TO [] IS THAT:

(1) 342 WAS LOST ON A REFUELING TRAINING FLIGHT MISSION.

(2) THAT THE PILOT SUCCESSFULLY EJECTED WITH MINIMUM

SCRATCHES AND BRUISES.

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CITE

(3) THAT BASED ON LIMITED INFO AVAILABLE IT APPEARED
THAT AIRCRAFT WAS OVER-STRESSED AND LOST A WING AS A RESULT
OF EXCEEDING DESIGNED LIMITS.

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2. AS OF NOW THE ABOVE HAS SATISFIED THEIR CURIOSITY
AND INTEREST AND NOTHING HAS APPEARED IN THE ENGLISH PRESS
RE THE LOSS OF 342.

3. IN THE INTEREST OF RESUMING OPERATION I RECOMMEND
THAT THE HEADQUARTERS GROUNDING BE LIFTED BY MONDAY 28 FEB TO
PERMIT RESUMPTION OF NORMAL OPERATIONS COMMENCING 1 MARCH.
THIS RECOMMENDATION PRESUPPOSES THAT INVESTIGATIVE FACTS FROM
342 ACCIDENT DO NOT DICTATE OTHERWISE BY 28 FEB.

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END OF MSG

IN 10203

T O P S E C R E T